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which have for a long time been practically inaccessible. These have now been collected and reprinted in a volume of 233 octavo pages, with a preface by Julia Ward Howe, and a brief obituary notice of Laura Bridgman by another hand. Besides the reports, the book also contains a number of paragraphs upon various aspects of Laura's condition and training, found among Dr. Howe's papers and probably intended by him as notes for his own use in the preparation of a contemplated book upon this subject. It is a matter for congratulation on the part of pedagogy and philanthropy alike that these original records of a masterpiece in both have been collected and republished. There is no publisher's name upon the book, though it can probably be obtained from the Perkins Institute for the Blind, South Boston, Mass.

Versuche über den zeitlichen Verlauf des Gedächtnissbildes. Dr. J. PANETH. Posthumously communicated by Prof. Exner. Original-mittheilung; Centralbl. f. Physiol., Bd. IV, No. 3, 10 Mai, 1890.

The interesting question of the rate at which the memory images of sensation fade has several times been made a subject of experiment; as early as 1851 E. H. Weber tested it for weights and the length of lines. Later experimenters in several instances have found the strange result that for sensations to which attention is given the decline in exactness is hardly appreciable, and with these the experiments of Paneth range themselves. He worked on the memory of time intervals ranging from a fraction of a second to several whole seconds, the strength of the memory image being measured by the ability to reproduce the given standard interval after a longer or shorter pause. The pauses varied from a fraction of a second to five minutes, and within these limits the fading of the image was scarcely to be appreciated. Toward an explanation of this persistence, the like of which Exner reports to have been found in the case of areas and of intensities of light in yet unpublished experiments of Dr. Wahle, it is suggested that the quantitative relations of any sensation to which we give attention are immediately registered in their proper places in the great mass of recollections already present, and what is afterward recalled is not so much the original sensation as these places. The "primary memory image" of a sensation, if unfixed by attention, is a very transient affair.

La morphinomanie. BALL. Paris, 1885.

Morphinomania holds the same relation to morphinism that dipsomania does to alcoholism; but dipsomania is intermittent, while morphinomania is continuous. The effects of opium upon the intellect are slight at first, but hallucinations come in later that may rise to acute mania as, *e. g.*, the "running a muck" of the Malays. The drug has a paralyzing effect upon the organs of vegetative life, and the moral sense is obliterated. The habit once formed, abstinence causes the same painful symptoms as abuse. Opium, hashish, tobacco, alcohol, tea and coffee seem to have many characters as nervines in common. As stimulants, they produce euphoria; excessive use (and abstinence after moderate use) causes insomnia, motor troubles, hallucinations, delirium, etc. The sexual passions are enfeebled; a temporary abstinence acts aphrodisiacally. The strength of the dose needed to produce full effect requires to be gradually increased in case of opium, sometimes a decrease as small as one-twentieth of a centigram is felt keenly. Two methods of cure are used. A sudden cessation accompanied by careful nursing and medical attendance, is short but risky; and the author recommends the gradual diminution of the dose even if the cure is protracted and painful. Tonics should be given, but nothing stronger than coffee. The paper concludes with an interesting review of cases of "*folie gemellaire*" in which twins, even though separated, were